



**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**  
**IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

***MULTI-WELL PLATE COVER AND ASSEMBLY ADAPTED  
FOR MECHANICAL MANIPULATION***

the specification of which was filed on August 1, 2001 as U.S. Serial No. 09/920,496 is the same as that reviewed and verified in this declaration.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed: Provisional Serial No. 60/236,391, filed on September 29, 2000.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application: NONE.

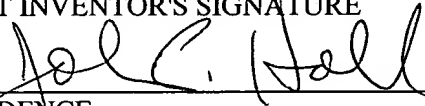
I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

NAME	REG. NO.	NAME	REG. NO.	NAME	REG. NO.
Richard J. Rodrick	26,985	Allen W. Wark	30,503	Alan W. Fiedler	33,690
David W. Highet	30,265	Richard E. Brown	30,934	Bruce S. Weintraub	34,277
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Address all telephone calls to Nanette S. Thomas at telephone number (201) 847-7049.

Address all correspondence to Richard J. Rodrick, Esq., Becton Dickinson and Company, 1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417-1880.

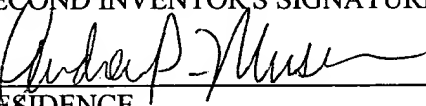
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF FIRST INVENTOR	
John P. Hall	
FIRST INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
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\* Before signing this declaration each person signing must:

1. Review the declaration and verify the correctness of all information therein; and
2. Review the specification and the claims, including any amendments made to the claims.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR	
Andrew P. Muser	
SECOND INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
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FULL NAME OF THIRD INVENTOR	
Kenneth W. Whitley	
THIRD INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
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